

OTHER STRUCTURES ON THE CAPITOL CAMPUS

One of the earliest public buildings built in Utah and an early scene of territorial government, the Council Hall (formerly the City Hall) was first located on the corner of State Street and 100 South. It was constructed in 1866 for \$70,000. This Federal/Greek Revival style, square, two story building was dismantled in 1959-60 and its sandstone exterior carefully numbered, transported and reconstructed at its present location south of the Capitol at the top of State Street. For thirty years the hall was the meeting place for the Territorial Legislature. It also served as an old police headquarters, the home of the Board of Health, and, in 2000, houses the Utah Travel Council.

Just east of the Council Hall is the White Chapel. This LDS meetinghouse was built in 1881 in the Gothic Revival style and featured a single steeple tower, then typical in chapels throughout the region. Also moved to its current location, it was originally built on Second Avenue but dismantled and reconstructed across from the Capitol in 1980. The building was used by several prominent church families including those of Brigham Young, Heber C. Kimball, and Orson F. Whitney. After preservation in place failed, Kenneth and Ada Marie White headed the reconstruction effort. The public now uses this building for nondenominational meetings and a variety of community gatherings.

The Daughters of the Utah Pioneer's Museum and monuments are located to the west of the Capitol grounds on a triangular piece of ground. The building references the style of the 1860 Salt Lake Theater, a Federal/Greek Revival design. The museum is filled with artifacts from the pioneer period of nineteenth century Utah. Hair floral arrangements, quilts, clothing, china and other precious items brought to the valley by the pioneers are displayed here, as are many items made and used statewide after they arrived. On the Capitol grounds just across from the museum are monuments commemorating the sacrifice of the pioneers who crossed the plains.

By mid-century, the state had outgrown its office space and needed to consider expanding. The idea of further remodeling the State Capitol had been considered necessary for years and the acute shortage of space demanded some solution, but "chang[ing] the stately dignity and grandeur of the structure was a step nobody wanted to take." In the mid 1950s, however, a group of architects set to the task of considering changes which would bring the Capitol building up to date, redesigning "the interior layout, leaving the massive partitions, and at the same time rendering the edifice more flexible and more adaptable to modern-day office procedures and standards."¹⁵⁸



STATE OFFICE BUILDING



AERIAL PHOTO WITH STATE OFFICE BUILDING

Merely remodeling the Capitol's interior space did not solve the space shortage crisis. In 1957 the state legislature appropriated funds for construction of a new office building for state officials. This six-story contemporary gray structure is indirectly connected to the Capitol by a paved and landscaped plaza. Parking lots are located to the south, east and west of this building. The legislature appropriated \$3,000,000 for the construction of the new building to the north of the Capitol. The new building would be considerably smaller than the Capitol itself and far less ornate, but would provide 150,000 square feet of office space, with a much higher percentage of actual useable space.

Senator Grant S. Thorn, Republican from Springville, chaired the commission which organized the project. The Office Building Commission

recommended that the new state office building receive top priority of state business. The commission's subcommittee on financing proposed two alternate ways of funding the structure: 1) direct appropriation of funds from the state general funds (It was found that enough money would be available on 30 June 1957 to pay for the new building); or, 2) borrow from existing state funds which had been invested in government bonds. This latter approach would require special legislation.

The Commission recommended that in the future, the State Capitol house the Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor, State Treasurer, Legislature, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Public Welfare, Supreme Court and Tax Commission. The new building would provide offices for the Highway Patrol and Commission, Department of Agriculture, Department of Business Registration, Board of Corrections, Civil Defense, State Road Commission, State Engineer, Finance Commission, Board of Forestry and Fire Control, State Historical Society, Industrial Commission, Tourist Publicity Department and the Water and Power Board. Traffic created by the new building would be accommodated by widening North Temple Street between Main and State Streets, building a major street northward through Ensign Downs to Davis County, and bridging City Creek Canyon to provide a new more direct route eastward.¹⁵⁹ The road changes and bridge were never built.

Part of the early planning for the new structure was a shifting in the plans for the grounds of the Capitol complex. A master plan was developed which represented "an attempt . . . to combine aesthetic considerations with those of function and economy," and which located the new building about 350 feet north of the Capitol. The rectangular mass of the office building would mirror the Capitol itself running parallel, east and west, and while six stories tall, it wouldn't block views of the building to the south. Connecting the two structures, a reinforced concrete plaza was planned with the same floor elevation as the Capitol's Ground Floor. Provisions in the plan allowed for future expansion to the east and west.¹⁶⁰

At the same time that the \$3,000,000 appropriation was approved by the legislature for the new office building, an appropriation for a \$741,000 remodel of the Capitol building passed. Primarily for interior adaptations of space, this total also included \$200,000 for parking facilities and \$120,000 for a chemistry laboratory remodeling.¹⁶¹

The architectural firm Scott & Beecher presented their preliminary sketches and plans for the building in November 1958. Among the features of their design were air conditioning, a cafeteria, exterior materials compatible with the Capitol's and various extras, all of which needed to be approved by the legislative taxation and highways committee.¹⁶²

The Building Board advertised for bids in November 1958 and the bids opened during the first week of January. The project architects had estimated that the 123,000 square feet of office space and "cast stone" exterior building could be completed for \$2,992,336, including their fees. After the bids were opened the legislative committee decided whether to approve extras and thereby increase the total cost of the building. Alternatives discussed by the board included a 400 seat conference room on the north wing, a lunch room, three elevators instead of only one, and air conditioning throughout the building instead of only in selected sections.¹⁶³

The Utah Building Board unveiled a master plan for development of the State Capitol Grounds in the form of a scale model in January 1959. Also prepared by Scott and Beecher, it was placed in the Capitol Rotunda for inspection by members of the legislature. At that time, the opening of bids was planned for February 6.¹⁶⁴

The low bid was submitted by the Alfred Brown Co. of Salt Lake City for \$1,928,000. Brown had just recently completed building new dormitories at Utah State University. The bid included prices for each alternative—conference room, lunch room, and so forth. The bid included aluminum sun louvers overhanging the windows on the south, recessed lights and certain utilities. Spandrels of porcelainized steel running in certain windows were also considered. They estimated that they could complete the building in 730 calendar days.

The plaza would require an additional \$1,000,000 and the parking lot \$200,000. Glen R. Swenson, director of the Utah Building Board, said the planning and design for the elevated plaza and its construction would be completed simultaneously with the building construction. This decision was supported by passage of Senate Bill 248 which enabled the Building Board to borrow about \$3,000,000 from state funds to finance the remainder of the Capitol grounds development program.¹⁶⁵ Swenson told the Tribune that the plaza would provide protected covered parking for 180 to 200 vehicles and also provide a safe and uninterrupted pedestrian path between the Capitol and the new office building." Pedestrians would walk across the top of the plaza, at the same level of the first floor of the Capitol and the second floor of the new office building. Vehicle traffic would proceed under the plaza. He hoped that, "The plaza [would] serve to relate the two buildings aesthetically, and to unify the composition visually."¹⁶⁶ It was decided that the funds would be borrowed from existing state trust funds and repaid through the funds of the departments using the space.¹⁶⁷

The state broke ground for the state office building at noon, March 8, beginning what was anticipated to be a two year building schedule. A few government leaders spoke briefly at the groundbreaking ceremony. Secretary of State Lamont F. Toronto, master of ceremonies, expressed thanks that the State Industrial Commission had not "closed down" the many overcrowded state offices waiting for completion. Senator Haven J. Barlow, Republican from Layton, said the new building would save the state \$60,000 paid out each year for downtown office space.¹⁶⁸

During excavation an enormous amount of soil had to be taken from the site and deposited elsewhere. About 40,000 cubic yards of the bluff located behind the Capitol was transported to the site of the I-15 freeway, also under construction, the result of coordinated planning by the Utah State Building Board and the State Road Commission.

By October 1959, the steel frame for the office building was essentially completed, a "forbidding skeleton waiting for a skin."¹⁷⁰ Preliminary plans for a \$298,000 cafeteria, a \$995,000 connecting plaza, and a \$200,000

parking facility received unqualified approval from the State Building Board in March 1960.¹⁷¹ At that time, construction on the state office building was progressing on schedule and it was anticipated that by December 1960, state employees would be able to move into their new offices. Some legislators had criticized the plans, saying they were too expensive. Glen R. Swenson, project director, answered the criticisms in a two page report. He estimated that the plaza would save the state \$50,000 each year in the time and expense of servicing the motor pool and other cars, as well as intangible values resulting from better shelter for state cars.

A generally mild winter helped the construction project stay on schedule. By March all the exterior cast stone had been placed, and crews were ready to begin installing the aluminum frames, windows and porcelainized panels which would fit between cast stone pilasters. Most rough plastering, plumbing, electrical work, and basic heating and air conditioning equipment were also installed.¹⁷² The parking lot would provide shelter for 200 state cars, a lubrication rack, wash rack and gasoline pump for servicing state cars on the east side. The parking lots to the east of the office building were blacktopped and the upper lot had connections to both the second and third floors of the building itself. The parking lot to the west was enlarged significantly.¹⁷³

The State Tourist and Publicity Council offices would be housed in the cafeteria building in the middle of the plaza. There, tourists could get information about scenic, recreational and historic attractions in the state.¹⁷⁴

The dedication of the new State Office Building was held at noon, 9 June 1961. Dr. Elroy Nelson, chair of the State Building Board, was master of ceremonies for a program held in the plaza. The Utah Army National Guard Band, directed by Tom Maxfield, played patriotic hymns and guardsmen presented the colors. Prayers were given by President Ezra Taft Benson of the LDS church, and the Very Reverend Stephen A. Katsaris of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church. Short remarks were given by Governor Clyde and C. Taylor Burton, state director of highways. Clyde described the Office Building as a milestone in the state's history. "As we look back and see the phenomenal growth of Utah over the recent past, then look ahead to the growth we anticipate in the immediate future, we can rest assured that the new State Office Building is a sound investment to the future of this great state."¹⁷⁵ The project which included the office building, plaza, cafeteria, parking lots, service station and sprinkler station cost a total of \$4,980,000.¹⁷⁶

RENOVATIONS OF THE STATE CAPITOL

In a sense, the Capitol building was never finished. Not only were elements of the original design never realized, as a result of cost-cutting efforts and design changes made throughout the construction process, but the building has experienced frequent additional work and modifications from the time it was “completed” and occupied in 1916, to the present. From the beginning, perimeter office layouts were altered as staff sizes changed and rooms were added piecemeal in the basement. Some of the major remodelings are mentioned herein.

A new illumination system for the Capitol dome was completed in time for the opening of an electrical convention held in Salt Lake City in 1927. C.W. Silver of Salt Lake City received the bid for wiring and installation of the lights for \$563.28.¹¹⁷ The state express shipped the projectors to ensure they would arrive on time. Utah Power & Light Company and the General Electric Company helped pay extra costs for shipment.

The commencement of a programmed remodeling of the Capitol was scheduled by the Utah State Building Board in April 1960. Bids from contractors were opened May 4 for the first phase of the remodeling at an estimated cost of \$155,000.¹⁷⁷ The first stage of the remodeling would include a remodel of the former offices of the State Highway Department on the fourth floor to accommodate the state engineer’s office. The offices of the Public Safety Commission would be revamped to make room for the State Finance Commission. The State Tax Commission offices would be remodeled for use of the State Park and Recreation Commission, and the State Board of Corrections and the State Insurance Commission.¹⁷⁸

In December 1961, the State Building Board awarded the Jensen Construction Company of Salt Lake City a contract of \$204,900 for remodeling three areas of the state capitol. The work included remodeling office space, wiring power and phone line installations and installation of ducts for air conditioning and heating.¹⁷⁹ To accomplish this, wallboard was taken off and in its place wall tile was installed and covered with plaster. Ceilings were lowered with aluminum grids and accoustical tiles to hide air conditioning systems.¹⁸⁰ The second phase of the remodeling was the installation of the air conditioning.

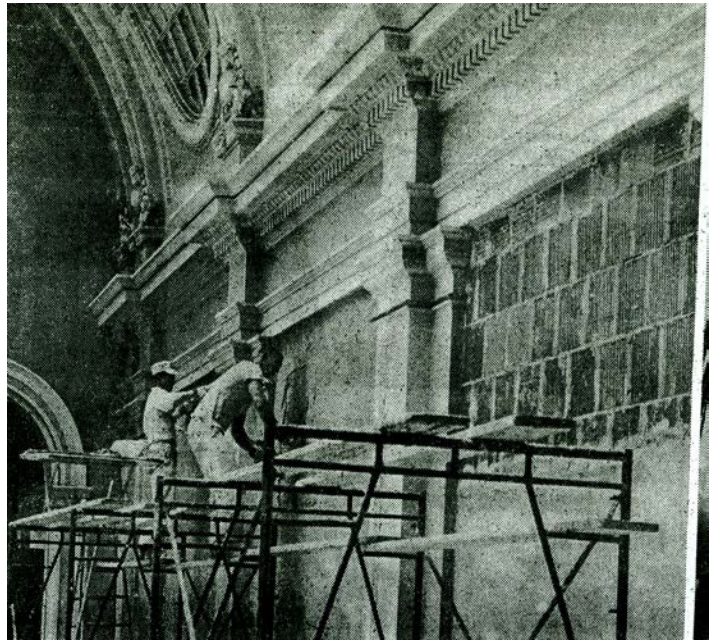
The third phase of the remodeling, a \$1.3 million project, called for replacement of the balance of the Capitol heating system as well as considerable electrical work. Other work included remodeling the heating plant, replacing worn out boilers and equipment, and remodeling legislative office space and some basement areas.¹⁸¹

Three years into the remodeling project, attention was paid to remodeling the Senate and House offices and lounges for approximately \$150,000. Snedaker and Budd, a Salt Lake City architectural firm, sought to blend contemporary design with the “essential architectural intent of the Capitol’s designer.” According to Lloyd Snedaker the “aim of the architects is to give the lounges and committee rooms a look and feel that will make Utahns proud of their Capitol.” Walnut panels, plush carpeting and vintage chandeliers created an atmosphere which was rich and dignified.¹⁸²

In 1960, the Utah Department of AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II and Korea) gave \$15,000 to the people of the state for a carillon. It was intended that the music that projected from the Capitol dome would be a “living reminder of ultimate sacrifice made by Utah servicemen and servicewomen in World War II and Korea.”¹⁸³ Mormon Tabernacle organist, Dr. Alexander Schreiner played the first music sounded at the dedication rites, 4 October at 4:00 pm. He played local favorites, “Come, Come Ye Saints,” and “Utah, We Love Thee.” The carillon console is mobile and can be moved under the Capitol dome or near the entrance. For the most part, music would be played by a player roll, much like that in player pianos. In addition, the carillon had a set of “Westminster” chimes which sounded occasionally with electronic amplification. Governor Clyde com-

mented that, “Each time that the carillon rings out music, it will turn our minds to the memory of the men for whom it is being played, and the gratitude which we owe them for making the ultimate sacrifice in order to preserve our American heritage.”¹⁸⁴ The fifty-five member Air Force Academy Band from Colorado Springs participated in a parade down Main Street and played at the dedicatory rites. Later, the Utah Bagpipe Band played on the Capitol steps and then proceeded inside for the ceremony. Elder Hugh B. Brown, of the Council of the Twelve of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, dedicated the carillon.¹⁸⁵

An appropriation of \$100,000 was made in 1965 for renovation of the governor’s office and general modernization. Secretary of State Clyde Miller thought the expenditure was justified because the Capitol was so key to tourism. The revamping of the Capitol involving replacement of over 600 wooden windows with aluminum-framed units cost \$147,000. A total of \$462,000 was appropriated in 1965 for improvements to the Capitol. Other priority updating included the installation of a sprinkler system in the basement (\$20,000), \$65,000 to replace the two elevators, and \$4,000 to replace or repair all six second floor doors.¹⁸⁶ The new windows, frames and doors were expected to prevent heat loss and keep out dust and insects which freely filtered into and through the building. Furthermore, they would facilitate cleaning from the inside and eliminate the need for scaffolds.¹⁴⁰ The Gold Room was refurbished in 1966 by refinishing the floors and cleaning and repairing rugs, draperies and furniture.¹⁸⁸ Gold leaf was reapplied in places to ceiling ornament, and pains were taken to preserve rather than modernize that space.¹⁹¹ In January that same year, one of the Gold Room’s chandelier crashed to the floor, “sending bits of glass scattering over rugs and hardwood.” In June a replica of the original fixture was hoisted into place for a total cost of \$668. The French crystal pieces, which were more than fifty years old, had to be replaced with custom Checkoslovakian chrystal. The chandeliers had been designed by Richard Kletting especially for the Capitol.¹⁴² Tourists who visited the building were often impressed by the material richness of the Gold room.¹⁹⁰



4TH FLOOR CORRIDOR RENOVATION: FILLING IN THE WALL
SALT LAKE TRIBUNE | APRIL 1962

The 1967 legislature appropriated \$355,000 for State Capitol repairs. Seven separate jobs included repairing deterioration around the Capitol dome and roof areas, rewiring and adding new hoists for the rotunda chandelier, which had not been lit for a year because of defective wiring, and conducting a study of the copper sheathing of the dome.¹⁹² The renovation work was completed in October.¹⁹³ That same month, an executive order, signed by Governor Calvin Rampton, lead to the “preservation, control and protection of art treasures and historic relics belonging to the state,” placing responsibility for the effort with the Utah Board of Fine Arts and the Board of State History. According to Milton L. Weilenmann, director of Department of Development Services, “Our State produced some great artists and it’s about time we gave their work its due.”¹⁹⁴ The Governor’s office was redecorated in 1968 as well.¹⁹⁵

The huge and ornate brass chandelier hanging from the capitol rotunda was lowered for the first time in February 1938 to be cleaned. In 1968 the light fixture was renovated, cleaned, rewired, given 40 new light bulbs, and the 95-foot chain and supporting cable were inspected and reinforced.²⁰¹ Also at that time, accord-



CIRCASSIAN WALNUT TABLE, GOLDRoom

ing to Secretary of State Clyde L. Miller, the chandelier and chain were weighed. Interestingly, the exact weight of the chandelier was not known prior to that event, but was estimated to range from three to six tons. But with the help of engineers from Hercules Incorporated's, Chemical Propulsion Division, the exact weight was determined to be much less than the high estimate—3,272

pounds or one and one half tons. To weigh the chandelier, the engineers brought in an electronic weighing device. It took about an hour to hoist up the chandelier and chain separately. The electronic scale they used was the same one used to weigh the rocket motors produced at the Bacchus Works.¹⁹⁶

The Senate and House chambers were repainted in 1968-69. Anticipating twelve weeks for completion, the Alfred E. Lippold Company painted gold, yellow and white colors over the rose paint originally used. Gold leaf was applied to bordering panels in the Chambers' arched ceilings as well as gold leaf highlighting decorative sculpture work on walls and arches.¹⁹⁸

The University of Utah's student newspaper, *The Chronicle* published an editorial 6 February 1968 noting the alarming deterioration of Utah's State Capitol, saying, "We feel that the Capitol building is an asset that has been too long neglected and ought to be given the consideration and attention it deserves as a cultural institution and showplace of native accomplishments."¹⁹⁹ Secretary of State, Clyde Miller, answered the editorial with a personal letter in which he expressed his own concern over the state of the state's architectural monument and summarized his own efforts to begin to remedy the problem. "As you, perhaps, know," he wrote, "I have been very deeply concerned with the condition of this most beautiful State Capitol building—not only the areas where the eye can see but the areas where the eye cannot see. As a result of my deep concern, I used my office in order to influence the last State legislature to appropriate sufficient money to do the job which you and I both recognize is necessary to place the Capitol building and grounds in a complimentary condition."²⁰⁰

Bids opened for work on the north, south, east and west entrances to the building in February 1969. An estimated \$87,000 was budgeted for the project which included the renovation of the building's heavy brass doors and the replacement of some doors with counter balanced stainless steel and glass doors in stainless steel frames.²⁰¹ The four eleven-foot cement statues of African lions, originally designated by Kletting and located at the east and west entrances were badly deteriorated by the 1960s and a proposal arose to remove them.²⁰² A surprising amount of controversy arose around the issue of disposing of the lions and instead, it was decided to store them "for their protection."²⁰³ Sculptor Avar Fairbanks believed there was no reason to save them because they had been the work of an "obscure sculptor."²⁰⁴ In 1975 it was decided to repair them. Unfortunately, another amateur was hired and when the results were less than satisfactory, they were removed and placed in storage cartons. The Capitol Displays and Statuary Committee considered replacement with ornamental pieces including the suggestion that stone oxen might best replace the heroic lion figures. Other ideas included seagulls, wildcats and jackrabbits.²⁰⁵ The issue of how to treat these two entries sculpturally remains unresolved.

FREE WATER

In 1960, Salt Lake City wanted to start charging the state for water. However, Attorney General Walter L. Budge informed Salt Lake City's water commissioner that the city was obligated to furnish free water to the buildings in the State Capitol complex. He based this conclusion on an examination of documents dating back to 1888. He concluded that "furnishing free water to the Capitol was done to encourage and as a consideration for the construction of the State Capitol in its present location." Critics of the idea suggested that this "creates an unjust burden upon other Salt Lake City water users."²⁰⁶ A dispute over water use resulted in a court case between the state and the city in 1968. The Third District Court ruled that the state had to pay the city for water use in the Capitol and on surrounding grounds.²⁰⁹ But when the legitimacy of the bond was tested in the Utah Supreme Court in 1968, the original agreement was determined to be as "valid today as it was in 1888."²⁰⁸ When Utah's State Capitol was lured away from Fillmore, one of the inducements had been the promise of free water. The state's obligation, on the other hand, was to maintain public parks located on the grounds surrounding the Capitol buildings.

ANOTHER NEW OFFICE BUILDING

The legislature created a special committee in 1972 to recommend construction of another new state office building for a cost of \$17,470,000. The new structure would be located east and north of the existing State Office Building and a similar wing could be added at some future time to the northwest of the present building. The state was already short of space and it was anticipated that rents the agencies paid using other space would pay for part of it.²⁰⁹ Some members of the legislative committee questioned the impact the new building might have on the current congested traffic on Capitol hill. The local neighborhood council, the Capitol Hill Awareness Team, also voiced its concern in a letter sent to the committee, saying that it believed that increased traffic flow onto Capitol Hill access roads would result in a chaotic situation. Supporters of the idea said that one advantage would be bringing more key state agencies to one location, making them more accessible to citizens.

During the fall of 1973, the legislature created a twenty-three member Capitol Hill Commission to advise on long-range plans for buildings and land use around the Capitol. Appointments to the commission were made by the governor and other presiding officers of the Senate and House of Representatives. In 1973 they included Secretary of State Clyde L. Miller, Burton L. Carlson, state planning coordinator, Blaine J. Kay, director of the Utah Highway Department and Melvin T. Smith, director of the State Division of History.²¹⁰ It was intended that the commission would formulate a plan for the "preservation" of Capitol Hill and present it to the 1975 legislature. The master plan would consider a site for future state office construction,



SALT LAKE
TRIBUNE
ARTICLE
1966



SALT LAKE
TRIBUNE
ARTICLE
1969

Capitol Painters Drop Light to Get At Dome

The magnificent state capitol dome is being repainted by a team of painters who are working on the interior of the dome. The painters are using a special technique to reach the high places of the dome. They are using a system of pulleys and ropes to lower a platform into the dome. The platform is then used by the painters to reach the high places of the dome. The painters are working on the interior of the dome, which is a very large and ornate structure. The dome is one of the most famous landmarks in Salt Lake City.

accommodations for vehicles and pedestrians on Capitol Hill, and ideally ways to prevent further deterioration and plan appropriate historic preservation.²¹¹

At the first meeting of the commission, Governor Calvin Rampton told the group to take the lead in determining construction needs and traffic patterns. "You must make a lot of basic decisions, not only on the aesthetics of Capitol Hill, but on the long-time operation of state government in the future."²¹²

The commission voted on construction of a new office building in January 1974. Despite considerable controversy and heated debate, the vote was 10-7 in favor of construction, stating that "a half-million square foot office building can be built on Capitol Hill without degradation of the residential and historic value and by revisions in the traffic operations." But because of division over proper methods of voting, the commission was divided and bitter over the vote.²¹³

The State Capitol Hill Commission (SCHC) submitted a resolution to the Salt Lake City Commission and asked the city to impose a moratorium on building permits for large-scale non-state construction on Capitol Hill until the commission prepared the master plan. The SCHC was also in the process of considering purchasing nearby property for sale in the Marmalade District for eventual resale.²¹⁴ The commission established a subcommittee in this interest to keep abreast of acquisition opportunities as property came available in the area.²¹⁵ However, the Salt Lake Planning Commission voted 5-1 against recommending a building moratorium on Capitol Hill. Despite Governor Rampton's support of the idea, the planning commission believed it was a "high handed" and possibly "illegal move."²¹⁶

When surveyed, residents of the Ensign Downs, Capitol Hill and western Avenues areas felt the area should remain residential and that further building on the Capitol site threatened the historical and residential character of the neighborhood.²¹⁷

Sam Evans, Building Board staff architect and planner, presented a series of ways to add office space on or near the hill at a meeting in October 1974. But, he said, "though the buildings and their parking areas could provide easy access to state offices, their impact on the appearance of the Capitol grounds would be tremendous."²¹⁸ The next month at yet another meeting, thirteen out of twenty-one members of the commission voted in support of a new office building despite the fact that the master plan was not yet finished. They pointed to the



SALT LAKE TRIBUNE ARTICLE, 1960

fact that several agencies such as the Education Department and the Highway Department were housed in various buildings throughout Salt Lake City. In fact, rents paid for outside office space amounted to \$1.1 million annually.²¹⁹

In December, the debate escalated, and the Salt Lake City Commission voted unanimously in opposition to the idea, aligning itself with other groups similarly opposed, including the Utah Heritage Foundation, the Capitol Hill Neighborhood Council, and other neighborhood grass roots organizations. Offended by the state commission's failure to discuss the matter with the city, Mayor Jake Garn said, "Who do they think they are; as a state commission operating within a jurisdiction which has a mayor and four city commissioners and a traffic engineer, and don't even have the common courtesy to say, 'What is your opinion?'"²²⁰

RECENT CAPITOL RENOVATIONS

In the mid-1980s extensive interior remodeling was again undertaken, the most visible result of which is the repainting of the House of Representatives Chambers with modern, decidedly non-original colors. The 1980s also brought the installation of a new, but matching copper roof to replace the one blown off in a severe windstorm.

In 1990 and again in 1995, the Utah Tile Company and its sub-contractors did major exteriors repairs. They removed the old, leaking roofing and installed a new, multi-layered system. The wood windows in the dome were removed, restored and reinstalled. Most noticeably, the walls and columns of the drum beneath the dome were re-surfaced with a modern textured plaster and sealant. Unfortunately, this material attracts and absorbs pollution and now looks mottled, dirty and unfinished. In mid-2000, new offices were built in the northeast corner of the ground floor.

Improvements to the Capitol over the past twenty years continue to update the building with new technologies and appearances. The inadequate fire detection system was replaced by a more modern one in 1979 for \$196,000. Closed circuit cameras were installed near doors on the ground floor which would be monitored by Capitol security.²²¹ Senate Majority Leader Craig Peterson, a member of Utah's Seismic Safety Commission, asked state building managers to formulate a plan for repairing the Capitol over a six- to seven-year time period.²²²

Several studies have been done in the 80's and 90's to determine the best course to take regarding Capitol Hill. [See the Appendix for a list of studies referenced and built upon in this report.] The great range of issues and satellite interests involved makes decisions regarding Capitol Hill a continually evolving and ever interesting topic.

May the equally important goals of enhanced safety, function and preservation for our Capitol building and grounds continue to be realized. May its timeless style, beauty and utility still grace the hilltop overlooking Utah's capitol city a thousand years from now. May it still symbolize democracy at the dawn of yet another new millennium.